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INFO ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE

ASIAN PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION

RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC

RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 0001

RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 0045

RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 0001

RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 0031

RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS

RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0001

RUEHHM/AMCONSUL HO CHI MINH CITY 0221

RUEHKL/AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR 0032

RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 0036

RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID 0007

RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 0001

RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO 0001

RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 0001

RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM 0001

RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 0004

RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 0033

RUEHVB/AMEMBASSY ZAGREB 0001

RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA 0001

UNCLAS AMEMBASSY HANOI 001292

SENSITIVE

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ECON](#) [ENRG](#) [EPET](#) [ETTC](#) [IR](#) [PREL](#) [VM](#)

SUBJECT: PETROVIETNAM AND THE IRAN SANCTIONS ACT

REF: STATE 121808 "IRAN SANCTIONS ACT: REPORTED INVESTMENT IN THE IRANIAN OIL AND GAS SECTOR"

¶11. (SBU) Upon receipt of reftel regarding investment in the Iranian energy sector by foreign companies, including PetroVietnam, Ambassador on November 27 in a previously scheduled meeting delivered reftel points to Ms. Nguyet Nguyen Nga, MFA Director General of Multilateral Economic Cooperation. Nga did not offer any immediate comment.

¶12. (SBU) On December 1, Economic Counselor delivered reftel points to Mr. Hoang Ngoc Trung, Deputy General Manager of PetroVietnam's Legal and International Relations Division. Trung stated that this was a "sensitive" issue, but noted that PetroVietnam appreciated the extensive cooperation with U.S. energy companies doing business in Vietnam. He asked for a letter to PetroVietnam's President/CEO requesting the information about PetroVietnam's projects in Iran. Embassy sent a letter, and Trung confirmed receipt on Dec. 1. He said PetroVietnam would respond as soon as possible.

¶13. (SBU) On December 2, Economic Counselor delivered reftel points to Mr. Le Chi Dzung, MFA Deputy Director General of the Americas Department. In response to his question, we confirmed that other countries and companies were receiving a similar request. Mr. Dzung stated that the overall US-VN relationship is very good, and that issues should be addressed in a candid and constructive manner. He said that Vietnam was familiar with the Iran issue given its current membership on the U.N. Security Council. He added that PetroVietnam would likely consult with MFA about a matter of international relations, especially concerning the U.S., but ultimately, he said, it is up to individual companies to decide how much information to share with the U.S. government.

¶4. (SBU) Embassy will follow-up with PetroVietnam and MFA regarding the information requested reftel about PetroVietnam's investments in Iran's energy sector.

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